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FM AMEMBASSY ASTANA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3384
INFO RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA 0064

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASTANA 001858

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR ISN/RA, IO/T, AND SCA/CEN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/23/2018

TAGS: [IAEA](#) [PARM](#) [MNUC](#) [KZ](#)

SUBJECT: KAZAKHSTAN - DEMARCHE DELIVERED REGARDING MESA
GROUP SEAT ON IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

REF: STATE 99746

Classified By: Pol-Econ Chief Steven Fagin, Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

11. (C) Charge delivered reftel demarche to Deputy Foreign Minister Sarybay on September 23, stressing that the U.S. is marshalling support for Afghanistan's candidacy for the open IAEA BOG MESA seat, but would like to assist Kazakhstan in resolving questions about its membership in the IAEA MESA group, with a view to supporting a Kazakhstani candidacy in a future cycle. Sarybay took the points relatively well, responding that "to be honest, this is a good option for us."

Kazakhstan, he said, was surprised about doubts regarding its MESA membership. The government was not well-prepared for a 2008 BOG candidacy, so putting off Kazakhstan's candidacy until next year would provide for more time to prepare the groundwork for a MESA seat bid, Sarybai contended.
MILAS